

REMARKS

The claims are rejected on the basis of U.S. Patent No. 6,236,449 ("449 patent"). The '449 patent does not suggest that the first and second lens components 40a, 40b are movable because the first and second members in claim 8 of the '449 patent refer to the first and second variable optical members 18, 24 of a light beam shape changing system (col. 3, lines 30-40) and (col. 5, lines 40-55). This must be so because claim 8 refers to pyramidal members and 40a and 40b are not pyramidal.

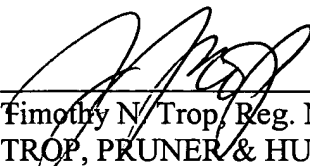
While it is true that the prisms of the first and second variable optical members 18, 24 are movable, the first and second variable optical members 18, 24 are disposed between the light source 14 and the light integrator 36 (see Figures provided in the '449 patent). The members 18, 24 are not between the light integrator 36 and the wafer 60 as asserted by the Examiner, and are adjusted so as to prevent concentration of light energy from the light source 14 on the integrator 36, thereby avoiding the risk of damaging the integrator 36.

In contrast, the first and second lens components 4, 5 of the positive lens unit of the claimed invention must be disposed between the integrator and the liquid crystal display panel 6 and are adjusted to form an image at a desired focusing, brightness, and magnification factor on the liquid crystal display panel. The function and arrangement of the first and second variable optical members 18, 24 of the light beam shape changing system in the '449 patent is not the same as that of the first and second lens components of the claimed positive lens unit.

In view of these remarks, the application should now be in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Timothy N. Trop, Reg. No. 28,994
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Ste. 100
Houston, TX 77024
713/468-8880 [Phone]
713/468-8883 [Fax]